

ESSEX BUS NEWS

Everything you need to know about Buses in Essex

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Essex Bus

Enthusiasts Group

Serving Essex Since 1964

Essex Bus News

Everything you need to know

Subscription Information

The current rates for a 12 month subscription are £16 First Class, £15 Second Class post.

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If you object to your information being held in this way, please write to the Membership Secretary.

Timetable subscriptions

Members of the scheme receive the Essex county council timetable books and updates plus a copy of the Thurrock council book.

Please contact Derek Stebbing for information or see www.essexbus.org.uk

Photo sales

We have photos of most operators and vehicles in Essex both past and present. Please write to Peter Snell with details of what you're looking for and he'll be pleased to help you.

Your reports & observations

Members reports, quality photos and original articles are always welcome. Please send them direct to the relevant Sub -Editor.

Any views expressed in articles are those of the articles author alone and they do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the group.

We reserve the right to defer items to allow time for confirmation or achieve page layouts.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy but the group cannot accept responsibility for any error of fact subsequently discovered.

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Problems with your subscription, need back issues or your magazine has pages missing? contact **Membership officer** Derek Stebbing, 18 Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford, CM2 0TP
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Thank you to the many contributors for their valuable news and information. Please send your Contributions for the next issue of Essex Bus News to the Sub-editors by 6 June and to the Managing editor by 10 June 2003 . The magazine is expected to be posted week commencing 23 June 2003.

Welcome Aboard!

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ESSEX BUS NEWS

THE READING AREA COACH TRIP

Saturday 28 June : Book your seat today before its too late!

www.essexbus.org.uk

Editorial

We all have memories of our favourite bus, maybe the bus that took you to work or college or possibly one that you have regularly driven.

Well, this month we've got a real treat for you, with a unique chance to own your favourite bus fleet number plate. Turn over the page and choose your favourite!

Have you booked your seat on the Reading coach tour yet? It's gonna be a great day out with visits to Reading buses, Weavaway and Newbury buses. All this for just £16.50. Don't delay booking your seat because they're selling out fast. Visit our website for a booking form or see last months special supplement .

Finally, Thanks for all your contributions. Please keep 'em flowing in, they're most welcome.

Cover

Arriva Shires and Essex 3256 V256 HBH
One of a batch of Volvo B6BLE with Wright Crusader 2 bodywork based at Harlow. They are mainly used on the 502 and town work and sometimes on the 501 from Brentwood to Old Harlow. (Chris Stewart)

Photo

Have we got your favourite number?

1800

2607

1336

2208

1503

009

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group is proud to give you the chance to own an historic Eastern National Fleet number plate and the table below show the numbers available. Don't miss out, these plates are rare and valuable!

Fleet No.	Registration	Type
1336	2726VX	Bristol MW
1405	VHK178L	RELH
1428	MOO 973	MW
1503	CVW857G	RELL
1604	BNO105B	RELH
1800	TJN499R	Leyland National
2208	EAM613	Bristol K
2226	CHJ255	K
2227	CHJ256	K
2253	DJN610	K
2607	BNX669B	FLF

The fleet number plates are £5 each including postage and packing. We also have one plate from the 1954 renumbering: 009 EBD240 from a Bristol L coach. This plate is £10.

Please let us know which plates you would like and make your cheque payable to Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group. Send your request to Peter Snell 6 Mandeville Way Benfleet Essex SS7 4LH.

All orders are on a 'first come, first served' basis, so don't miss this unique chance to own the fleet plate from your favourite bus!

Essex bus diary

Your guide to forthcoming events

The Reading Area Coach Tour Saturday 28 June Only £16.50

Make sure that you don't miss this outstanding day out!
We'll be travelling on Genial Travel's DAF/Van Hool coach and
the day's highlights include :

- A visit to Reading Buses garage and Reading town centre
- An afternoon trip to Weavaway's two garages near Newbury.
- Plus a look round Newbury Buses' garage.

Local joining points include Colchester, Boreham, Shenfield rail stn, Brentwood, Gallows Corner, Newbury Park, Gants Hill and Redbridge.

For full details, please see the booking form
enclosed last month or visit our website at
www.essexbus.org.uk and click on coach tours.

Forthcoming Events

Sunday 1 June Southend bus rally, Southchurch park, Southend.

Sunday 28 September Showbus, Duxford.

The next group meeting will be on Tuesday 9 September.

**The Reading area coach tour
Saturday 28 June: Book your seat today!**

Central line bus services update

By Bob Palmer

From Saturday, 5th April, there were changes implemented to the emergency Central Line Replacement Services, owing to the introduction of a through railway service between Loughton and Ealing Broadway. The existing bus services were altered and reduced in scope plus new identification letters were introduced as follows: -

SERVICE AEPPING - HARLOW, Monday to Friday only, every 10 minutes peak hours, every 15 minutes off-peak.

SERVICE B EPPING - Theydon Bois - Debden - LOUGHTON every 10 minutes peak hours, every 15 minutes off-peak and Sats/Suns.

SERVICE CDEBDEN - LOUGHTON shuttle, Monday to Friday peak hours only, every 5 minutes.

SERVICE D HAINAULT - Fairlop - Barkingside - Newbury Park - Gants Hill - ILFORD, Monday to Friday only, every 4 minutes peak hours, every 15 minutes off-peak.

SERVICE EGANTS HILL - Redbridge - BARKING, Monday to Friday only, every 10 minutes peak hours, every 15 minutes off-peak.

SERVICE FHAINAULT - Fairlop - Barkingside - Newbury Park - Gants Hill - Redbridge - Wanstead - LEYTONSTONE, Saturdays and Sundays only, every 10 minutes.

Ensignbus responsible for services A to C, Blue Triangle for services D to F. The 'usual suspects' still seem to be providing buses and drivers.
(Continued on the next page)

READING AREA COACH TOUR Saturday 28 June
Book now or miss out!

From Saturday, 12th April, services were restored over all sections of the Central Line with normal timetables in force on Saturdays and Sundays BUT a Saturday service being provided on Mondays to Fridays, with additional services during the morning peak period. The full bus service network was, however, retained in operation on a 'just in case' basis but initial observations found the buses running around empty, although the Epping to Harlow shuttle is still carrying people and has in fact become a popular service with the good people of Epping.

This large bus service provision ended on Thursday, 17th April. After the Easter break only Services A & D were retained to work Mondays to Fridays only, whilst Service F was retained at weekends, all as a 'safety net'. As at the time of writing this report (2nd May) this situation was to continue until mid-May, as the official posters put it, when hopefully a near normal service can be run on the Central Line.

The operators on Service A are still Ensignbus whilst Service D/F is seeing buses only from Blue Triangle and Redbridge Transport.

For information, in west London only one shuttle service remained until 17th April, SERVICE G, running between Northolt and Rayners Lane.



453 S453 SLL First London Dennis Arrow/East lincs at Epping stn. (Chris Stewart)

Essex service changes

Changes are split into two sections to avoid some changes appearing more than once. Changes to "regular" services appear first, with changes to school services described in brief at the end. All changes, especially those with a date after 9th May, are subject to change, so please check with the operator or Traveline before travelling.

This section is compiled by Adrian Lancer and you can email him at ebegsceditor@aol.com

Changes not previously recorded:

- 378** (*Arriva*) (Purfleet & Grays) Withdrawn from 10th November 2002.
- 500** (*Arriva*) (Romford & Old Harlow) Monday to Saturday timetable revised from 24th December 2001.
- 501** (*Arriva*) (Brentwood & Old Harlow) Monday to Saturday timetable revised from 24th December 2001.

Sunday 6th April 2003

- 70, 717** As in Issue 467.
- 133, 351, 354** As in Issue 468.

Monday 7th April 2003

- 93** (*Carters/First*) (Colchester & Ipswich) Minor changes to Monday to Saturday timetable.
- 130** (*Heddingham Omnibuses*) (Clacton Common & Clacton) New timetable from Tuesday 8th April.
- 305** (*National Express*) (Southend & Liverpool) Timetable change. Great Dunmow and Stansted Airport will no longer be served.
- 350** (*National Express*) (Clacton & Liverpool) Return journey from Liverpool runs 15 minutes later throughout.
- 481** (*National Express*) (Felixstowe & London) Minor timetable changes.
- 484** (*National Express*) (Walton/Clacton & London) Minor timetable changes.
- 755, 756** (*Carters*) (Capel St. Mary & Colchester) Additional afternoon journeys added on Monday to Fridays.
- 777** (*National Express*) (Stansted Airport & Birmingham) Revised timetable.

Week Commencing Saturday 12th April 2003

1, 397, 503 As in Issue 467.

Woodham Swimbus As in Issue 468 from Monday 14th April.

727, 757, 797 As in Issue 468 from Friday 18th April.

301 (*Stansted Transit*) (Saffron Walden & Bishops Stortford) Revised timetable.

Week Commencing Saturday 19th April 2003

600 As in Issue 467 from Tuesday 22nd April.

503 As in Issue 468 from Thursday 24th April.

Week Commencing Saturday 26th April 2003

210, 410 As in Issue 468 from Saturday 26th April.

14, 15, 15A (*Chariots of Essex*) (Wickford & Chelmsford) Last two journeys from Chelmsford extended to Wickford from Monday 28th April. (See also school routes section).

237 Transferred from Jacksons to NIBS.

306 (*Stansted Transit*) (Wicken Bonhunt & Bishops Stortford) Re-routed in Bishops Stortford from Monday 28th April.

322 (*Arriva*) (Old Harlow & Saffron Walden) New timetable from Monday 28th April.

Saturday 3rd May 2003

506, 600 As in Issue 468.

Saturday 10th May 2003

20 (*Arriva*) (Debden & Walthamstow) New timetable.

Week Commencing Saturday 17th May 2003

40A As in Issue 468 from Saturday 17th May.

500 As in Issue 468 from Sunday 18th May.

Tilbury Shuttle As in Issue 468 from Monday 19th May.

Week Commencing Saturday 24th May 2003

348 As in Issue 468 from Saturday 24th May.

203 As in Issue 468 from Sunday 25th May.

347 As in Issue 468 from Tuesday 27th May.

- 1 (Hedingham Omnibuses) (Ashden & Sudbury) Route re-routed to serve Tilbury Juxta Clare from Thursday 29th May 2003.
- 75 (First) (Colchester & Maldon) Additional Sunday only journey added from Sunday 25th May leaving Colchester at 0905 for Maldon.
- 200, 201 (Locallink) (Harlow/Ongar & Buckhurst Hill) New timetable.
- 313 (Four Counties Buses) (Saffron Walden & Great Dunmow) On Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, the 0945 from Great Dunmow and the 1300 from Saffron Walden will be re-routed via Wimbish. Minor changes to Saturday timetable from Monday 26th May.
- 335 (First) (Braintree & Maldon) New Sunday service introduced from Sunday 25th May.
- 605 (First) (Colchester & Walton) Summer Sunday service re-introduced from 25th May to 28th September.
- 606 (First) (Walton & Harwich) Summer Sunday service re-introduced from 25th May to 28th September.
- R2, R3 (Olympian Coaches) (Harlow & Staple Tye) Revised timetables from Tuesday 27th May.

Week Commencing Saturday 7th June 2003

- 310B (Metroline) (Harlow & Waltham Cross) Withdrawn after service on 31st May. Following a review of the operation of this route, it is apparent that passenger numbers and revenue are no longer sufficient to continue their operation. (See also C4).
- C4 (Trustline) (Cheshunt & Hoddesdon) This Monday to Saturday hourly route will be extended from Hoddesdon to Harlow via Stansted Abbots, Hundred Acre and Rye Park to partially replace 310B.
- R3 (Olympian Coaches) (Harlow Town Service) Timetable change from Tuesday 10th June.

MAKE SURE THAT YOU GET THE FACTS

TURN TO THE BACK PAGE

Sunday 15th June 2003

First will be making major changes to their Southend network from this date.

Canvey Clipper (First) (Bournes Green & Canvey Newlands) Low floor route renumbered 26 and 26A and also re-routed via Canvey Village. New Sunday only 26B will operate via Kents Hill Road.

2 (First) (Basildon & Southend Central) New timetable.

3 (First) (Temple Sutton & Canvey Leigh Beck) Will now run on Sunday evenings only with minor timetable changes.

11A (First) (Sutton Cemetery & Chelmsford) New Sunday timetable.

15, 16 (First) (Southend Central & Canvey Eastern Esplanade) Timetable change. In addition 16C will be withdrawn.

20, 20C (First) (Southend & Hullbridge) Re-routed via Prittlewell Chase and the front of Southend Hospital instead of Carlton Avenue and the back of Southend Hospital. (See also route 25). In addition all 20A journeys will be renumbered 820 and all 20B journeys will be renumbered 20.

21 (First) (Sutton Cemetery & Canvey Leigh Beck) Low floor route re-routed in Canvey to terminate at Eastern Esplanade instead of Leigh Beck. (See also route 27). Monday to Saturday daytime service increased to x20 minutes. In addition all 21C, 21D and 21E journeys will be renumbered either 821 or 822.

22 (First) (Basildon Hospital & Canvey Leigh Beck) Withdrawn from Basildon Hospital.

24A (First) (Temple Sutton & Rawreth) Revised to operate via current route 3 routing between Temple Sutton and Southend with a routing change in the Highlands area.

25 (First) (Southend & Basildon Hospital) Re-routed via Carlton Avenue and the back of Southend Hospital instead of Prittlewell Chase and the front of Southend Hospital.

27 (First) (Southend & Canvey Eastern Esplanade) Low floor route revised to operate between Temple Sutton and Canvey Leigh Beck via Hamstel Road, Woodgrange Drive, Southend, Hadleigh, Kents Hill Road, Benfleet, Canvey Silver Jubilee and Canvey Haystack. In addition Sunday only 27B will be extended to Temple Sutton Cemetery via Manor Road and Tarpots replacing 21C over this section.

29B (First) (Southend & Southchurch) Withdrawn.

64, 65 (*First*) (Southend & Temple Sutton Circular) New timetables.

Timetables for these revised services will be contained in the new edition of the Essex County Council Southend area travel guide book. See page 2 for info on joining our timetable subscription service.

School Services (all areas)

Wednesday 23rd April 2003

710 As in Issue 468.

Monday 28th April 2003

193, 606 As in Issue 468.

14, 15, 15A (*Chariots of Essex*) (Wickford & Chelmsford) School journeys "revised".

551 (*Locallink*) (Bishops Stortford & Mark Hall School) New route. Routing unknown.

552 (*Locallink*) (Bishops Stortford circular) New route via Harlow.

553 (*Locallink*) (Bishops Stortford & Staple Tye) New route. Routing unknown.

Monday 2nd June 2003

501 (*Pheonix Student Travel*) (Chelmsford & Southend) New Timetable.

605 (*Pheonix Student Travel*) (Earls Colne & Ingatestone Anglo European School) Withdrawn.

607 (*Pheonix Student Travel*) (Ostend & Ingatestone Anglo European School) Routeing and timetable change.

608 (*Pheonix Student Travel*) (Great Dunmow & Ingatestone Anglo European School) Withdrawn.

609 (*Pheonix Student Travel*) (Maldon & Ingatestone Anglo European School) Routeing and timetable change.

WANT TO READ THE LATEST NEWS FROM ENSIGN?

Turn to page 29

Essex Bus News: Everything you need to know about buses in Essex



First

More Sprytes and an Olympian

Acquired vehicles

- 4.03 **765** R708VLA Dennis Dart SLF/East Lancs Spryte B34F
 766 R709VLA Dennis Dart SLF/East Lancs Spryte B34F
 767 R710VLA Dennis Dart SLF/East Lancs Spryte B34F
 4326 P185TGD Volvo Olympian/Alexander

Stephensons coach for driver training

Stephensons of Essex Volvo coach A17SOE has been on loan for Driver Training. Lynx CF1413 has also been in temporary use for training, covering Leyland National 1924 which was undergoing mechanical repair.



660 SN51 UYH Scania L94UB/Wright Solar operating service 100 at Stock.

Repaints (to 'Barbie 2')

4.03 911 2801 (repair at TransBus) 921 924 1511 2829
910 919

Allocation changes (period ending 26 April 2003)

FGC=First Group cascade, i.e. transfer to another First fleet (see below for details)

Acq=acquired, Res=reserve, Disp=disposal

703 HH-FGC; **704** HH-FGC; **706** HH-FGC; **707** HH-FGC; **765** Acq-HH;
766 Acq-HH; **767** Acq-HH; **1426** CF-Disp; **2648** Res-AB; **2649** AB-res;
2803 BE-spare; **2828** Res-CF; **4014** CR-CF; **4034** CF-BN; **4030** BN-Disp; **4326** Acq-CR

2647 and 3219 remain in use (see below)

As at 9.5.03, 4014 was at CF but 4030 was still in use at BN.

Disposals

4.03 **703, 704, 706, 707** to *First Huddersfield* (replacing hired Scania)
701/2 (transferred 3.03) are reported to have been renumbered 40869 and 62112, while 711 is now 4510 with FWN at St Austell

Present at Clacton on 9th April were disposal vehicles 1408/25/30/1, 2651, 3078/92, 3101/3, 4028 and 9029.

Don't forget... Essex Bus News is your magazine
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Unusual workings

In addition to the notes which follow, Hadleigh's SLF Darts 717-721 have been noted on a wide range of workings, following the arrival of 762-767 (used mostly on the Canvey Clipper). Step-entrance Darts have also been fairly common on the 3.

It has also been noted that the 06.10 Harwich-Colchester and 07.20 return service 104 are diagrammed for a Mercedes 709, while DT double-deckers are used on School services 30A/B. All remaining 103/104 workings are full-size buses.

- 10.4.03 2647 on 64
- 19.4.03 BN920 on 12
HH4005 on 25
- 24.4.03 CF2667 on 36
- 29.4.03 926 on 565
- 1.5.03 BN736 on afternoon 860 (Doddinghurst-Brentwood schools)
and 81
- 2.5.03 CR4315 at CF for private hire, CF1414 covering service 71.
4315 worked 351 later (seen on 16.10 from Romford)
before returning to CR.
CR4324 on 71

Part time and full time drivers wanted

First are looking for full and part time drivers to work from their Essex garages. Union agreement means that part time drivers are being recruited for the first time and it is hoped that this flexible approach will attract new applicants. If you're interested in driving with First, please call 01245 262828.

VR-watch

3219 continues in use, mainly at CR. It was loaned to CN for 74s on 25.4.03 but was back by the following day and was operating service 67 on Sat 10 May. 3113 was unserviceable at BN on 8.5.03 for reasons unknown.

The following list gives the allocations of former Essex VRs with First Western National as at 13th April (i.e. the first day of their new service network):

Camborne: 1238 (KOO785V), 1242 (XHK228X)

Falmouth: 1249 (XHK223X)

Newquay: 1246 (UAR597W), 1250 (XHK220X)

Penzance: 1240 (XHK225X)

St Austell: 1243 (UAR586W)

Withdrawn: 1244 (UAR589W), 1258 (STW34W)



3072 KOO 790V This VR is probably oldest bus still in regular service with First Essex. Based at Braintree garage, Chris Stewart caught up with her at Wickford High St on rail work between Wickford & Southend on 23 March.

First Datafile

Your monthly guide to the Essex fleet

First Essex/First Airport fleet allocation

26 April 2003

Airport Buses	112, 432/4/5, 602/8/10, 917/43, 1550/1, 2640/8/50/83, 2813-5/22/5
Airport Coaches	101/11, 397/8, 2679
Braintree (BE)	944, 2656/63/6/71/5/80, 2804/8/11/2/6-8/21/6/7, 2909-11, 3072, 3112
Basildon (BN)	404-6, 655-67, 712-4/34-8/53-61, 809, 852-5, 914/5/8/20, 929-34/6/7/45/67-73/83-6, 1400/4/10/32, 3113, 4026/34, 5005
Chelmsford (CF)	430/1/3, 512-37, 729-33/9-44, 1401-3/7/13-6/27/8, 1516-20, 2646/67/8/70/2-4/6-8, 2828, 2901-8, 4007/10/2, 4014/24/5/33, 5001/4/17
Clacton (CN)	907/8/12/6, 1510-3, 2665, 2801/5/6/9/10/9/20/3/4, 4015-9
Colchester (CR)	650-4, 715/6, 910/1/74-82, 1501-9, 2829/30, 2921-6, 4301-5/7/9/15/20-6
Hadleigh (HH)	407-10, 705/8-10/7-21/46-8/50/62-7, 811, 913/35/8-42/6-58/87, 1405/6/9/11/2/7-24, 2643/5/52/3/7-62, 4003-5/27
Harwich (DT)	909, 2669/81/2, 2802, 4008/9/13, 4308/10/1/4
Romford (RD)	401-3, 501-11, 805/6/10
Heritage	2383, 9001
Spare	314, 1429, 2655/64, 2803, 3109
Reserve	100, 919/21/2/4-8, 2649/54
Disposal	1408/25/6/30/1, 2641/2/4/7/51, 3078/92, 3101/3, 3219, 4028/30
Driver Training	35, 1433 (BN); 1924, 9002/3/20/6 (HO)
Ancillary vehicles	(note that some of these details are by members' observation only) BN: 9030, 9308; CF: 9008; CN: 2111, 9028; CR: 9033; HH: 9035; HO: 9004/10; Disp 9029/34

The following buses are fitted with tachographs:

701, 852-4, 1400/4/5/32/3, 1510/1, 2383, 2655/6/77, 2801/9/29/30, 4013/5/6/9/30, 4310/1/5

Depot requirements and vehicle allocations

For operational reasons this information may be subject to change, and is given for guidance only

	BE	BN	CF and (MN)	CN	CR	DT	HH	RD	TOTAL BY TYPE
PVR									
Minibus	5	4	11 (2)	1	0	2	14	5	44
Midibus	13	38	41	12	20	2	39	0	165
SD	0	16	7 (6)	4	12	0	11	0	56
DD	2	2	6	4	14	6	3	0	37
Phoenix DD	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Phoenix SD/Midi	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mobility (Midi)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Route 193 (Midi)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
Total PVR	20	64	67 (8)	21	46	10	68	15	319
ENG SPARE									
Minibus	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	4
Midibus	1	3	5	1	1	0	2	0	13
SD	0	1	2	0	2	0	2	0	7
DD	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	6
Mobility (Midi)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Route 193 (Mini)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
ALLOC									
Minibus	6	4	11 (2)	1	0	3	15	6	48
Midibus	14	41	46	13	21	2	41	0	178
SD	0	17	9 (6)	4	14	0	13	0	63
DD	2	3	7	5	15	7	4	0	43
Phoenix DD	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Phoenix SD/Midi	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mobility (Midi)	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Route 193 (Mini)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
TOTALS	22	70	76 (8)	23	50	12	73	17	FLEET TOTAL 351

First Airport

	AIRPORT BUSES	AIRPORT COACHES
TRAFFIC REQUIREMENT		
Minibus	6	3
Midibus	6	0
Coach	6	1
SPARES		
Minibus	1	1
Midibus	1	0
Coach	0	0
TOTAL ALLOCATION		
Minibus	7	4
Midibus	7	0
Coach	6	1
TOTAL	20	5

A big thank you to everyone who's contributed to this section this month, we could'nt do it without you!

J Clayton, S Coates, S Cocks, C Cole, D Edwards, M Farmer, S Fulcher, A MacFarlane and the *Bristol Interest Circle*, P Mansbridge, P Rowden, C Sigston, K Smith, P Snell, D Stebbing, R Webb, R Whitley, Essex Bus and London Bus y-groups, *First Essex*, Essex CC Bus Passenger News, LOTS, N&P, PSV Circle.

**DON'T FORGET
TO BOOK YOUR SEAT**

**The Reading Area Coach Tour
Saturday 28 June**

ARRIVA

Colchester, Grays and Southend

Allocation changes

Into the Essex fleet

E3404 P324 HVX Dennis Dart/Plaxton Pointer B34F Sheerness - Grays

Out of the Essex fleet

E2388 P478 DPE Mercedes 711D/ Plaxton Beaver 2 CR - Sittingbourne

E2391 P481 DPE Mercedes 711D/ Plaxton Beaver 2 CR - Sittingbourne

E5403 H263 GEV Leyland Olympian/ Leyland CR - Sheerness

It's reported that Tiger coach E4310 (A250SVW) is withdrawn owing to the ending of the Southend United contract. The allocation list will be updated when this has been confirmed.

News in brief...Southend area

- Southend Trident E5441 (W441 XKX) and Dart E3225 (T825 NMJ) were involved in an accident on 28 April. Both suffered serious damage and will be off the road for some time. As a result, there is something of a vehicle shortage, exacerbated by the need to put those vehicles fitted with anti assault screens onto specific running numbers, in light of the number of attacks suffered in Shoebury in recent months.

The net result is that some route branded buses will appear off-route and there will be some step entrance buses on low floor guaranteed routes at times.

- Olympian 5418 N708 TPK did a private-hire for Arriva Southend's Social Club to Kew Gardens in Late April.

Colchester area

- Rail Replacement -

13/04 - Replaced trains between Walton and Thorpe Le Soken and Clacton and Colchester between 0700 and 1430 and last two Clacton trains from Colchester to allow First Great Eastern to test their new 360 trains.

Buses used 3241, 3420 5404, 5407, 5408

- Repaints and M.O.Ts -

08/04 - 614 returned from Southend today and 4353 went for M.O.T

14/04 - 3420 to Southend for M.O.T

15/04 - 5403 to Sheerness, 5398 back from paintshop at Gillingham and 4353 back from M.O.T at Southend.

19/04 - bus 3422 went to Dartford for repaint

22/04 - 3420 returned from Southend and 5398 went for M.O.T

26/04 - 3422 returned from Dartford paintshop today

03/05 - 5407 to Gillingham for repaint

06/05 - 3346 to Southend and 5398 came back after M.O.T

06/05 - 3422 to Southend for M.O.T and 3346 returned

- A visit to Reading Buses garage and Reading town centre
- An afternoon trip to Weavaway's two garages
- Plus a look round Newbury Buses' garage.

Plus travel by luxury coach from your local joining point.

**THE READING AREA COACH TOUR
SATURDAY 28 JUNE**

ARRIVA EAST HERTS & ESSEX

New vehicles

4521	KE 03 OUS	DAF SB120	Wright	F697 B30F 4/03
		XMGDE12BSOH010334		
4522	KE 03 OUU	DAF SB120	Wright	F698 B30F 4/03
		XMGDE12BSOH010335		

Vehicles in

From Arriva the Shires (Hitchin) 4/03

2138	N368 JGS	Mercedes 709D	669003-2N-036814
	Plaxton 957.6MHV4546	B27F	New 4/96
2139	N369 JGS	Mercedes 709D	669003-2N-036864
	Plaxton 957.6MHV4547	B27F	New 4/96

From Arriva London South L16/187/38 4/03

5836	WLT 916	Leyland ONLXB/1RH	ON2292
	ECW 26298	H42/26D	New 3/86 (ex C816 BYY)
5837	D187 FYM	Leyland ONLXB/1RH	ON2514
	ECW 26512	H42/26D	New 10/86
5838	C 38 CHM	Leyland ONLXB/1RH	ON2320
	ECW 26320	H42/26D	New 3/86

Allocations

4/03: 2138/9. HA; 4521/2, 5836-8. WE.

Correction

EBN461 page 20 - 5385 (B183 BLG) did not pass to Arriva the Shires in 7/02.

Vehicles out

2093/4/6-9 (M153/4/6-9 RBH), 2230/1 (M290/1 AJC),
2338 (L718 OVX), 2349 (M729 UTW), 2351-3/5-8 (M731-3/5-8 AOO),
2359/62 (N739/42 AVW): gone (to a dealer) 4/03
3120 (M720 OMJ): Arriva the Shires (Luton) 4/03
5385 (B183 BLG): UK North, Gorton, Manchester 230 8/02

Subsequent movements

2092 (M152 RBH): Olympian, Harlow by 4/03
(in livery of white with dark blue skirt)
2309 (G924 WGS): Bailey, Blackburn 3/03
5252 (KYO 612X): Amber-Lee, Chatham 2/03
5255 (B155 WUL): Harper, Oxford (for preservation) 1/03
5260 (BYX 290V): Eastonways, Ramsgate 1/03
5363 (BYX 233V): Trustline, Potters Bar 2/03
5367 (GYE 508W): Stratford Blue, Stratford on Avon 2/03
AN249 (KPJ 249W): Gemini, Swansea 2/03

Making the news

- 5836-8 are said to be the first of 14 similar machines being obtained from Arriva London. (The next four are expected to be ex Arriva London L181/7/203/13. They are expected to replace the "G & H" plated Olympians recently introduced on to the 310. These are to be placed for disposal as the ex London machines, although older are thought to be in better condition.
- 4521/2 are the dedicated vehicles for service 350/1 etc (Bishops Stortford- Hertford) , the contract for which, was recently taken over from London Transit.
- The only Iveco minibuses within the Arriva the Shires group are Trainers 2235/6/346 which may appear at HA &/or WE together with withdrawn 2337 and Staff bus 2347

Forty years of **Essex Bus News**

1964 - 2004

Arriva Data File

Vehicle requirements from May 2003

Garage	M-F peaks	M-F off peak	Sat	Sun
Colchester (Bus)	About 38	About 38	About 38	0
Coach	4	0	0	0
Grays	30AM 29PM (b)	26	26	12
Southend	57AM 58PM(a)	50 (51 W/T)	51	19
Dengie	Mon-Sat 5 with PM vehicle swap)			

Key - (a) 58 AM 59 PM on non college days (b) 29AM 28PM on non sch days

W -Wednesday T - Thursday

The Grays allocation inc. TfL contracts route 256 M-F peaks 10 Cadets , 9 off peak, Sat 9 Cadets, Sun 5 Cadets (pvr 3- middle/late meal relief taken at garage) Route 346 Mon-Sat 2 Cadets

Allocations -Southend (SE)

Dennis Dominator	E5273	E5274	E5275	E5276	E5278
	E5286	E5287	E5288	DD16	
Dennis Trident	E5434	E5435	E5436	E5437	E5438
	E5439	E5441	E5442	E5443	E5445
	E5446	E5547	E5548	E5549	E5451
Leyland Olympian	E5392	E5393T	E5394	E5395	E5396
	E5399				
Volvo Olympian	E5415T	E5416T	E5417T	E5418T	E5419T
Dennis Dart SLF	E3218	E3220	E3221	E3222	E3223
	E3224	E3225	E3226	E3391	E3392
	E3393	E3394	E3395	E3396	E3397
Dennis Lance SLF	E3379	E3381	E3382	E3383	E3384
Dennis Dart	DS006	DS007	DS008	DS009	
	DS014	E3092	E3349	E3350	E3370
	E3373	E3404			
Mercedes 810	E2188	E2191	E2192	E2193	
Mercedes Sprinter	1751	1752	1753	1754	1755
	1756				
Coach	E4310T				
Training School Buses					
Leyland Lynx	YDT965	YDT966	YDT888		

Colchester (CR)

Leyland Olympian	<u>E5389T</u>	<u>E5397T</u>	<u>E5398T</u>		
	<u>E5404T</u>	<u>E5407T</u>	<u>E5408T</u>	<u>E5409T</u>	
Volvo D10M	613	614	617		
DAF SB220	<u>E4335</u>	<u>E4336</u>	<u>E4337</u>	<u>E4339</u>	
Dennis Dart SLF	<u>E3419</u>	<u>E3420</u>	<u>E3422</u>	<u>E3430T</u>	
Leyland Lynx	<u>E3341</u>	<u>E3342</u>	<u>E3343</u>	<u>E3346</u>	<u>E3347</u>
Volvo B6	<u>E3241</u>	<u>E3245</u>	<u>E3246</u>		
Dennis Dart	DS015	DS020	DS021	DS023	
	E3168	E3406			
Mercedes 711	<u>E2392</u>				
Mercedes 810	<u>E2174</u>	<u>E2243</u>	<u>E2372</u>	<u>E2382</u>	<u>E2383</u>
Mercedes 811	1461	1462			
Coach	PVR 4		Allocation	4	
Scania k113	E4352T	E4353T			
Leyland Tiger	E4305T	2196	Trainer	Lynx	YDT 47

Grays (GY)

MCW Metrobus	M615				
Leyland Olympian	E5402	E5405T			
DAF SB120	E4500	E4501	E4502	E4503	E4504
	E4505	E4506	E4507	E4508	E4509
	E4510	E4511	E4512	E4513	
Dennis Dart SLF	E3387	E3388	E3389	E3390	E3400
	E3401	E3402	E3403	E3405	E3421
	E3423	E3424	E3425	E3426	E3427
	E3428	E3429	E3431		
Dennis Dart	E3406	E3407			
Ferry Buses	YFB580	YFB698			

Key - T- Vehicle fitted with tachograph, Underlined - Fitted with GPS

All information is subject to change and given for guidance only.

Compiled by Sean Menzies with invaluable help from Arriva Southern Counties.

Other operators

ANITA'S STANSTED Names noted 4.03 are:- Dennis Javelin/Caetano K869 JJN (ex K3 ERN) now has no name, similar M6 ERN now has 'Miss Viv', Volvo B10M/Caetano P3 ERN is now 'Master Nathan', similar RY51ERN is named 'Miss Tara', while Volvo B12M/Caetano K3 ERN (the new one) is 'Miss Amy'.

APT COACHES RAYLEIGH J48 UFL (ex GAZ 4630, J48 UFL) DAF/Van Hool is confirmed with this operator (by 2.03) ex Ludlow, Halesowen, W.Mids. R500 GSM (ex H19 AND, R500 GSM) MAN/Berkhof is in (3.03) ex Hand, Horsley, Gloucs.

W629 LNT Ford Transit is in (by 4.03) with PSV disc.

AVRO STANFORD-LE-HOPE Bedford YNT/Duple RSU 883 (ex PNT 832X) has gone from the field at Baker Street, Orsett (by 4.03) - assumed gone for scrap.

CHELMSFORD TAXIBUS This operator has left the operating centre at Landview, Ongar Road and moved to Shakestones Farm, Greenbury Way (A414), Widford (by 4.03)

RJ1 6621 (ex APT 42S, HSB 906Y, GIL 7364, GIL 3573, HSB 549Y, HIL 6570, OGE 8Y) DAF/Van Hool is still with this operator.

Ford Transit EU51 BYR has fleet no. 58 , EY03 NFU has fleet no. 45

New Ford Transits are:- EF52 KSE - fleet no 56 (by 2.03) ,EO03 UUE - fleet no. 60 (4.03)

EO03 UUF - fleet no. 59 (4.03), EO03 UUH - fleet no. 41 (4.03), EY03 NFR - fleet no. 47 (4.03)

EY03 NFT - fleet no. 46 (4.03)

EXCELLENT CONNECTIONS STANSTED EY03 NBX , fleet no. 400 is another Ford Transit.

FLAGFINDERS BRAINTREE A ?/Van Hool is in (by 4.03) - sorry no further details.

GARDNER BOREHAM There is a MAN/Caetano currently (4.03) parked at the owners home. - unable to see any registration.

GLEW COLCHESTER A547 RCA Bedford/Plaxton is in (by 4.03) (ex Durber, HARRISEAHEAD, Staffs.)

JACKSON BICKNACRE Bristol VR/Alexander OSR 192R has gone to a Barnsley dealer for scrap (by 3.03). Leyland Olympian/ECW B782 FOG (ex B111WAT, B 107LPH) has gone to Opperman (Wootten), Chesham, Bucks. (by 3.03).

T322 KNN Bova Futura is in (4.03) ex Skill (no. 92), Nottingham.

KINGS STANWAY KC03 ABC Bova Futura C53F new 1.4.03 NOTE: This operator now has KC02ABC and KC03ABC]

Van Hool T815's D685 JVF has gone to Neaves, Catfield, Norfolk (by 4.03). and E107 GOO (ex LSU 113, E107 GOO, DSU 107, E107 GOO) has gone to Silk, Swafield, Norfolk (by 4.03)

KIRBY RAYLEIGH R104 HEV a Setra S250 has been reregistered K30 BYS (by 4.03)

LODGE HIGH EASTER M759 PVM Mercedes 811D/Mellor is in (4.03) ex Beeston, Hadleigh, Suffolk - not yet in service at mid 4.03.

MCFEETERS STANFORD-LE-HOPE Bedford YMT/Duple HAL241V has gone from the field at Baker Street, Orsett (by 4.03) - assumed gone for scrap.

N.C.S. NEWPORT L724 PAV LDV 400 is in (by 4.03 - probably a lot earlier)

REGAL BUSWAYS COOKSMILL GREEN W992 JNF Mercedes Vario /Plaxton is in (by 4.03) - also W997JNF is here (these are temporary loans).

J105/32/40 DUV Dennis Dart/Plaxton are in (by 4.03) ex London United DR105/32/40.

RELIANCE BENFLEET W100 LCT & W200LCT Scania/Van Hool are in (by 4.03) ex Leons, Stafford (nos. 122/3).

Dennis Javelin's N743NAY and P194KJM have gone (by 4.03).

ROYDON COACH TRAVEL This operator ceased operations, some months ago.

S M COACHES HARLOW MJI 2374 (ex 2803 PK, B701JYJ) a NeoplanN122 has suffered fire damage and has gone to Lloyd (dealer), Hixon, Staffs. (by 4.03).

STAN'S GT.TOTHAM R927 JYG Bova Futura is in (by 4.03) ex Anderson, Bermondsey, London

STORT VALLEY GT.DUNMOW L298 APJ (ex MCH 384, L426 CDB) Mercedes/Olympus has been seen in the Rettendon yard - not sure if in use (ex Tims, Sheerness, Kent)

S139RWA Mercedes O404/Hispano is here - not sure if it came direct from Kingston or if it has been away and returned

SUPREME HADLEIGH EJ02 FCX Ford Transit is in (by 4.03)

TEE JAYS WIVENHOE This operators licence was revoked, with effect from 25.4.03

TOWN AND COUNTRY GRAYS Leyland Olympian/ECW C117CHM has fleet no. 206

WARDS ALRESFORD P925 CBV LDV Convoy has gone to Holloway (dealer), Willenhall, W.Mids. (by 3.03)

WINDMILL GT. BROMLEY S613 AKP (ex S6 TRA) a Setra has been reregistered back to S6 TRA (on 17.4.03)

ESSEX - NON-PSV OPERATORS

HELP FORCE RECRUITMENT E927 JAR is Dodge/Wadham Stringer B38F (+ seat opposite driver). This company is connected with Fargo (L.J.Smith) of Rayne.

MISCELLANEOUS

E111 RAX Freight Rover Sa 400/Carlyle seen 4.03 in Chelmsford (last recorded with Woodcock, Chadderton, Gt.Man.)

MTV 500P Bedford/Plaxton is at Hoblongs Industrial Estate, Gt.Dunmow as a car transporter (by 4.03)

Heddingham

Into the fleet

L328 EU03 BZK Transbus Dart SLF (SFD3CACR33GW87120)

Transbus-Plaxton Pointer B37F (2092/1) - registered 17.3.03

The chassis plate has 'Transbus'; the body plate shows 'Transbus' and 'Plaxton'. We understand that the body was built at Falkirk, hence the Alexander style body number.

Ensign dealer report

Your monthly guide to the latest vehicle movements

Vehicles in

From Metroline DRL23,DRL25,DRL27.
 From Metrobus Metrorider H172WWT.
 From London Central (PM on 09/04) T963,T980 and T991 03/03
 From Metroline DRL32,DP237,M1151,S13,S14,S18,S19,S20
 From Arriva the Shires Bristol VR SNV938W.
 From Go Ahead North East. Metrobuses C767OCN,BYX247V
 From LB of Lewisham. T356.
 From London Central T851,T1040. Q on 25/04
 From Wiltax, IOW M1272.
 From Black Prince, Leeds. Optare Vecta M73WYG

Vehicles out

Scania's H232/35/36/38/46LOM Black Prince, Morley
 M1259 PVS for scrap.
 DP236 K418MGN Caledonian Coaches, Glasgow.
 T980 T963 Z and S coaches, Aylesbury
 M55 Basebus Association, Naples, Italy.
 M953 and Olympian EWX534Y Trailen Enterprises,Leatherhead (dining bus use)
 Metrorider H172WWT Red Route, Northfleet.
 M1411 Castors Coaches, Romford.
 T1000 Mark Cole, Hornchurch.
 National 2 C112CSJ Supreme, Southend.
 Metrobus 2's C759OCN and A625BCN Imperial, Rainham.
 Olympian C670LJR Red Route, Northfleet.
 Dublin Olympian 90-D-1028 now H775PTW with Ipswich Buses.
 Dublin Olympian 90-D-1012 now G951FVX and open top with Tappins, Oxford.
 Condor DL16 EG857 now G939FVX with Big Bus,London.
 " " 26 EG9356 now G938FVX " " " "
 " " 27 EG9386 " G953FVX " " " "
 " " 37 EH6824 " G954FVX " " " "
 " " 38 EH7098 " G943FVX " " " "
 " " 41 EH9876 " G952FVX " " " "
 " " 31 EH4324 " G956FVX " " " "

All the above are full open topers.

Condor DL40 EH9604 now G959FVX with Weavaway, Newbury.
 Bedfords REV188R, CEV89T Trailon Enterprises,
 Leatherhead (dining bus use)

Atlantean VYJ143V Club in Motion, Manchester.
Leopard GIL3581 Mr Lucas, Southern Spain.
Dart DMN18R now R822JHJ with Andy James Travel, Gloucestershire.
Darts DRL23/25/27. Paul's Travel, Huddersfield.
Tiger D919VKJ Sidcup Coaches.
T851, T1040, T991 Big Bus Co, London
Condor DL24 EG6964 now G963FVX with Big Bus Co.
Dublin Olympian 90-D-1010 now G963FVX and open top
with Tappins, Oxford.
Dublin Olympian 90-D-1030 now H792PTW with Nu-Venture, Aylesford, Kent.
M940 Levelles Coaches, Belfast. Converted to part open top and to be used on new
Belfast City Sightseeing Tour commencing early June.
M1410 Jans Coaches, Soham, Cambs.
Metrobus C767OCN Imperial, Rainham.
RM307 Re registered UAS101 and sold to Mr Zorodic,
Zagreb, Croatia.
One other small point, RM1864 had its registration mark removed before export.
864DYE is now on a private car.

For details of all the latest stock visit www.ensignbus.com

Phoenix Student Travel

Research shows that the following services are currently operated by
First by arrangement with Phoenix Student Travel.

The operating garage and vehicle type are also given.

(Original list compiled by Ross Whitley, updated by Sean Menzies)

502 BN DD Shenfield-Southend /Westcliff and HSB
505 BE DART Danbury- Colchester RGS/Norman Way
506 CF DD S Woodham non stop to Chelmsford KEGS/GCHS
509 BE DD Gt Dunmow- Colchester RGS/Norman Way
512 CF DD Chelmsford-Westcliff Schs/Southend HSB
521 CN DD Gt Holland- Colchester RGS/Norman Way
525 CF DD Gt Baddow -Colchester RGS/Norman Way
561 BN DD Basildon- KEGS/GCHS/Patching Hall La Sch
562 BN DD Billericay-Chelmsford KEGS/GCHS
571 CN DD St Osyth non stop to Clacton CHS
606 BE DART Braintree-Ingatstone AE
619 CF Pnx DD Debden-Ingatstone AE
620 CF Pnx DD Epping-Ingatstone AE

Where Are They Now ?

Continuing our regular look at the latest locations of former
Eastern National , Thamesway & Essex Buses

<u>FLEET No.</u>	<u>REG No's.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>	<u>EN, TW or EB.</u>
102	P437OVW	Dawson (t/a GPD Travel), Heywood. re-reg P5 GPD	11/02	EB
103	P438OVW	Dawson (t/a GPD Travel), Heywood. re-reg P6 GPD	11/02	EB
107	P750HTW	RTF Commericals, Braintree (dlr).	07/02	EB
109	N458DBK	Hague (t/a IV Minicoaches), Skellow.	05/02	EB
114	DSU733	gone.	10/02	EB
	[ex DSU470	ex Boardman & Harmer, Bolton.		
	PNK160R]	to - ? - , Carlton (dlr).	11/02	
117	125LUP	Haywood & Prosser (t/a A Line), Bedworth.	09/02	EB
	[ex G441PWW	via Ramm, Sudden (dlr).		
	IIL5133			
	G425WFP]			
0221	C221HJN	gone.	by 08/02	EN
		ex City Central, Hull.		
226	C480BHY	gone.	by 11/02	EN
		ex Henderson, Penygraig.		
227	C481BHY	- ? - , Merthyr Tydfil [transporter].	09/02	EN
		ex Chapman, Pen-y-Graig.		
0232	D232PPU	gone.	by 09/02	TW
		ex Flynn, Killorglin.		
320	H326LJN	Hancock, Gilwern.	11/02	EB
		via Ramm, Sudden.		
321	H327LJN	Palmer, Luton.		
		via Ramm, Sudden (dlr) and now B25F		
325	H332LJN	Home James, Banks.	by 10/02	EB
		via Ramm, Sudden (dlr).		
364	H375OHK	Lake, Slough.	09/02	EB
		via Ramm, Sudden (dlr) and now C25F		
379	H390OHK	Palmer, Luton.		
		via Ramm, Sudden (dlr) and now B25F		
520	J 54SNY	North Lincolnshire Council FLEET No 79064.	by 09/96	TW
0602	C602NPU	- ? - , Keswick [mobile caravan].	05/98	EN
		ex Hughes, Gourock.		
0603	B 16TJW	Halifax Bus, Halifax FLEET No TJ16.	by 11/02	EN
	[ex C603NPU]	ex T J Walsh, Halifax FLEET No TJ16. renamed <i>Princess Pauline II</i>		
0756	D756RWC	Thomas, Llansamlet.	by 07/02	TW
		ex Briggs, Crymlyn Burrows FLEET No F6		
808	K308DJN	Patterson (t/a Travelsure), Seahouses.	by 11/02	EB
		via Ramm, Sudden (dlr) and now C31F		
903	K903CVV	First Leicester Citybus Ltd FLEET No 693.	09/02	EB
		ex First Northampton FLEET No 693.		
959	N959CPU	First Western National FLEET No 4493.	08/02	EB
960	N960CPU	First Western National FLEET No 4494.	08/02	EB
961	N961CPU	First Western National FLEET No 4495.	08/02	EB
962	N962CPU	First Western National FLEET No 4496.	08/02	EB
963	N963CPU	First Western National FLEET No 4497.	08/02	EB
964	N964CPU	First Western National FLEET No 4498.	08/02	EB
1128	B696WAR	Barnes & Kenning, Birmingham.	by 05/02	EB
		ex - ? - , Musselburgh.		
		to Horsey (t/a Crest Minicoaches), Bromley.	09/02	

1308	ANA 92Y	Kavanagh M, Tipperary. re-reg 83-TS-545	11/99	EN
1527	LPU452J	United Provincial, Denton. to Johnson, Hanslope. to Buckinghamshire Road Car FLEET No 452. to Busways FLEET No 1803. to NEBB, Annfield Plain (dlr). to Whiting, Pontefract (dlr). gone.	by 02/92 02/92 07/93 03/94 06/96 06/96 by 10/02	EN TW
1721	NEV678M	ex Kettlewell, Retford.	08/02	EN
1736	JIL2161 [ex HWC 87N]	Lloyd (t/a P & O Lloyd), Bagillt. ex Arriva Fox County FLEET No 2162. <i>[rebodyed by East Lancs 06/97]</i>		
2253	F 34TJN	Monaghan & Kileen, Liskeard <i>[for spares]</i> . via Hardwick, Carlton (dlr).	08/02	EB
2487	76 JNO	Government of Virginia, Williamsburg. ex Hants & Dorset, Bournemouth FLEET No 3487. to City Parks Dept, Newburgh, IN	c 06/76 by 06/98 09/02	EN EB
2603	H603OVW	Mid Wales Motorways, Penrhyncoch. via Ramm, Sudden (dlr).	by 12/02	EB
2609	H609OVW	Mason (t/a Master Travel), Herongate. via Ramm, Sudden (dlr) and now C25F	08/02	EB
2638	K638GVX	Jones (t/a Abacab Reisen), Llanfairfechan. via Ramm, Sudden (dlr) and now C25F	by 01/03	EN
2751	JWC711	CreativMarketing, Munich, Germany. German registration M-ZU 3492 <i>currently used as a promotional vehicle for Ballantine's Whiskey</i>	by 07/01	EN
2912	WWC742F	Avila, Waltham, Massachusetts. ex - ? - , PA . [u/k military vehicle restorer].	03/92 08/92	EN
3053	LJN648P	United Welsh Coaches FLEET No U648. to Brewers. to Skillplace Training FLEET No 38 to South Wales Transport- First Cymic. to Henford, Swansea <i>[for spares]</i> .	by 77/97 by 03/02 08/02	TW
3080	STW 24W	Henderson, Pen-y-Graig. ex Gemini, Birchgrove .		TW
3081	BIL4710 [ex STW 25W]	Nelson, Wickford. re-reg STW 25W to Ensign, Purfleet (dlr).	01/03 01/03	
4502	B690BPU [ex IIL1828 B690BPU]	Brandon, Blackmore End. destroyed by fire.	10/02	TW
4508	B696BPU [ex IIL1829 B696BPU]	Brandon, Blackmore End. destroyed by fire.	10/02	TW

The Reading Area Coach Tour

A great day out for £16.50

Another great day out from
Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

Saturday 28 June 2003

THE READING AREA COACH TOUR

- A visit to Reading Buses garage and Reading town centre
- An afternoon trip to Weavaway's two garages
- Plus a look round Newbury Buses' garage.

See last month's
Essex Bus News or visit our
website for a
booking form.
www.essexbus.org.uk

- Travel by luxury Van Hool coach all the way
- Local joining points close to rail stations
- Unbeatable value at just £16.50!

Essex Preservation

- An interesting old bus has been found near Ongar. It is the remains of National Omnibus and Transport 2056. HK 7553 AEC YC with Dodson OT54RO bodywork, new in 1920.

It operated at one period from Colchester depot but was never operated by Eastern National, having been withdrawn by the time the National was split up.

It has at some time been used as living quarters but the good news is that it's now been recovered and moved to a safe undercover site for eventual restoration.

This is the second National bus found in Essex in recent years, with the other being AEC YC PU 8156 AEC YC B31F which was found in a caravan site at Heybridge and currently being restored.

- Do you know the whereabouts of ex Westcliff Bristol LS5G Eastern Coachworks coach, EJN638 last heard of in the Braintree area, any news would be welcome

Buy your favourite fleet number plate

See page 4

**Reading buses, Newbury buses
and Weavaway, all in one day!**

Make sure you book your place on Saturday 28 June
www.essexbus.org.uk

The Renown in Essex

By Peter Snell

The AEC Renown, the six wheel version of the AEC Regent, the bulk of which were operated by London Transport, could be seen operating on the Eastern area of London Transport, notably Hornchurch garage.

Another Renown operating on the western edge of the County was EV 7340 in the fleet of Hillmans of Romford, this was a coach fitted with Harrington 32 seat luxury coachwork.

Moving to the centre of the County, Eastern National purchased four Renowns (3332-3335) MJ 406. MJ407. MJ290. MJ291. with Short L66R bodies, these were initially operated in the Midland area but later transferred to Chelmsford and saw service until scrapped in 1949 (3333. 1944).

Further south , Westcliff Motor Services at Southend added JN 4612 fitted with a Short CL49F later L53F bodywork, this was the first of six Renowns to be used on the Southend - Wood Green service route 16, however soon after it was delivered the route was sold to the City Coach Company so the remaining five were cancelled, 4612 then operated as a normal bus on local services and finished as a workmans bus.

Moving to the Colchester area, Norfolks of Nayland used a Renown on their service to Colchester, this was VO7884 with Strachen bodywork originally in the fleet of Ebor Bus Company in Mansfield this later operated in the Western SMT fleet in 1936 and came to East Anglia when operated by Burwell and District in the Cambridge area passing to Norfolks who operated VO7884 from 1944 to finally scrapped in the early fifties.

Finally a former London Transport Renown, LT1217 (GW 5880) was operated as a mobile exhibition unit and was seen in many parts of the County in the mid 1950s.

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